THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Monday, 1st March 1954.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, at eleven of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

MR. SPEAKER :—" From to-morrow onwards, the House will sit from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2-30 to 5 p.m. in the afternoon."

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Problem of unemployment.

* 16 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state the steps that are taken to solve the unemployment problem in the State?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" The question is very general and so my answer is likely to be long. I hope you will not mind it.

The problem of unemployment and under-employment is a longstanding one, intimately connected with total national wealth and population, although the problem is given a specific name and is receiving widespread attention only lately. Unemployment among the educated classes and among those who move to towns is only a part of and to some extent the consequence of the situation in respect of population and production in the countryside. The question is really one of increasing the production in the State in proportion to the increase of population. The Government of India are offering their assistance and co-operation to the States in respect of some measures. Large Irrigation and Power Projects are being undertaken in this State, with a view among others, to increase national wealth and incidentally to provide larger employment opportunities for professionally trained and experienced men, as well as to unskilled workers. The intensification of the Community Projects and National Extension Service Schemes and the Local Development Works also provide some scope for greater employment, besides developing the countryside. The difficulty in relation to the educated unemployed is that there is strong disinclination to take up work which involves manual labour under present non-mechanized conditions. As regards the handloom weavers, this Government continue to be of the view that their position can be effectivey improved, only by the reservation of the local market in respect of at least certain categories of cloth for the handloom. Though the Government of India have not accepted this recommendation in full,

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they have created a Handloom Cess Fund from out of the proceeds of a cess levied on mill cloth and the allocation to this State is nearly Rs. 90 lakhs. Schemes are being put into operation for using this fund to help the weavers in several practicable ways.''

Sri N. K. PALANISAMI :—'' வேலையில்லாத் திண்டாட்டத்தைப் போக்குவதற்கு மத்திய சர்க்கார் ஐந்தாண்டுத் திட்டத்தில் இரண்டு கோடி ரூபாய் ஒதுக்கியிருக்கிறார்கள். அதில் நமது சர்க்காருக்கு எவ்வளவு பங்கு வந்திருக்கிறது ? அந்தப் பணத்தைக் கொண்டு என்னென்ன திட்டங்களை வகுக்கப் போகிறார்கள் என்பதை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொல்லவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்ளுகிறேன்.''

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—'' All that will take time to concretize and for me to be able to answer.''

Sri P. KUNHIRAMA KIDAV :—'' Sir, will this Government be pleased to take urgent steps to distribute cultivable waste lands in the State to landless poor as one step to solve the unemployment problem? ''

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—'' Government have been long doing the distribution of uncultivated land to those who are ready and able to cultivate. There is nothing very new that can be done about it.''

Sri S. T. ADITYAN :—'' Are Government collecting any statistics as to the unemployed for at least the major cities? ''

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—'' Sir, that no doubt will give some employment to clerks and it won't help much otherwise.''

Sri M. PALANIYANDI :—'' மில் சரக்குகளின் மீது செஸ் விதித்துக்கொடுத்தும் கூட கைத்தறி நெசவாளர்களின் நிலைமை உயர்த்தப்படவில்லை என்பது நமக்குத்தெரிகிறது. ஆகையினால் நாம் செய்த சிபார்சு முழுவதையும் மத்திய சர்க்கார் ஒத்துக்கொள்ளும்படியாக சென்னை அரசாங்கம் செய்ய முடியுமா ? அதற்கான நடவடிக்கை எடுக்க கனம் முதன் மந்திரி அவர்கள் முன் வருவார்களா ? ''

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—'' We have done all that we can and I hope if hon. Members on the other side will join us in getting through some of the Budget proposals, we will be able to help the handloom weavers much, if all things go well.''

Sri V. R. NAGARAJAN :—'' Sir, have the Central Government given any specific powers to the Madras Government in regard to this unemployment problem? ''

Mr. SPEAKER :—'' Powers? ''

Sri V. R. NAGARAJAN :—'' Yes, Sir, powers for tackling this problem? ''

The Hon. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—'' What is wanted is not power, but resources.''

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SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, as regards the (educated unemployed, have the Government got in their possession any statistics to show how many are the unemployed to-day under the various categories, like Post-Graduates, Graduates, under-Graduates and S.S.L.C. passed; are Government aware of the fact that young students after having graduated from our Universities and seeking to get better jobs went to foreign countries, and returned with M.Sc. or Ph.D. in Agriculture and other allied subjects and they are still unemployed even though they offered their services to the Government? And have Government any plans to solve this unemployment? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member has put three questions in a stretch."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I have explained the position fairly clearly as far as I can understand and as far as I see, in my primary answer. The hon. Member is only repeating the same grounds and I can only repeat the same answer."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, cannot the genius of our Chief Minister devise some constitutional sanctions to compel the Government of India to accept his proposals with regard to giving relief to handloom weavers in Madras State? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" My genius will fail if the processes are explained."

SRI T. ANANTA PAI :—" Is it a fact that the Planning Commission has recently called for some schemes for tackling unemployment and if that is so, will Government be pleased to inform the House of the schemes that have been recommended? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, I have done my best to explain what I feel about this matter. If all hon. Members go on assisting the process of producing wealth, we can solve unemployment. There is no magical charm by which we can solve unemployment, except by finding employment and employment means work and that means capital resources— all things are wanted. There is no use using the slogan word ' unemployment ' and repeating it. Employment is work and how can we make people work, unless there is capital and men willing to work? "

SRI A. GOVINDASWAMY NAYAGAR :—" தென்னாட்டில் தான் வேலையில்லாத் திண்டாட்டம் அதிகரித்து வருகிறது. ஆகவே தென்னாற்காடு ஜில்லாவிலுள்ள நிலக்கரி சுரங்க வேலையில் தென்னாட்டிலுள்ளவர்களை மட்டும் உத்தியோகத்தில் அமர்த்திக் கொள்ள சர்க்கார் முன் வருமா ?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" If we localise resources and employment in that way, the distress will be greater."

11-10 a.m. **SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM** :— " வேலையில்லாத் திண்டாட்டத்தைக் குறைப்பதற்கு உற்பத்தியை பெருக்க வேண்டியது அவசியம் என்று சில நிமிஷங்களுக்குமுன் கனம் முதல் மந்திரி அவர்கள் கூறினார்கள். உற்பத்தியைப் பெருக்கினால் உற்பத்தியாகும் சரக்கு தேங்கி விடுகிறது ஆகவே சரக்குத் தேக்கத்தைத் தவிர்க்க மில்கள் மூடப்படுகின்றன. இம் மாதிரி இனி தொழிற்சாலைகள் மூடப்படாமல் இருக்க சர்க்கார் உத்தரவாதம் கொடுக்குமா என்று கேட்கிறேன். "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, I cannot give any 'Utharavatham' as long as the Communist party will go on increasing the demands of people and thereby cause employers to close their works down."

SRI P. K. GOPALAKRISHNAN :—" Sir, there are about 4 lakhs of workers engaged in the coir industry in Malabar and because of the slump in the industry most of them are either partly or wholly unemployed. What steps have the Government taken to either improve the industry or provide alternative employment to those people? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, I shall in my own personal capacity and on behalf of the Government do everything to relieve distress of this kind but I can do so and the Government can do so only if those who have got the position and the power to influence the mind of workmen do not ask them to demand too much at the present moment."

SRI A. RAMASAMY TEVAR :—" Sir, will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to take active steps to solve unemployment problem among the hon. Members of the Assembly? " (Laughter.)

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, I knew that the hon. Member Sri Thevar when he rose would ask some such question. But I am not prepared with an answer." (Laughter.)

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—" Sir, the Hon. the Chief Minister was saying in reply to a supplementary question that he was entirely dependent on the co-operation of the hon. Members on the Opposition side in getting through the Budget proposals . . . ? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, I did not say 'entirely'."

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM :—" Are we to take it that he failed entirely in his attempt to persuade the Central Government to relieve unemployment? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Words such as 'entirely' should be omitted. Then the rest would be correct. I have not given up my hope about the Central Government, I have not given up my hope in the Opposition,

and I have not given up my hope in my own Party or my own Government. Hope remains. But we should all co-operate especially if we want to solve this great, real and general problem of unemployment which means inadequacy of wealth and overmuch of population."

SRI K. V. RAMASWAMI :—" சேலத்தில் இருக்கக் கூடிய இரும்புத் தாதுக்களை வெட்டி எடுத்தால் ஆயிரக்கணக்கானவர்களுக்கு வேலை கிடைக்கும். ஆகவே அதற்கு வேண்டிய ஏற்பாடுகளைச் செய்ய சர்க்கார் முன் வருமா ? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, we must bring together the iron-ore in Salem and the coal that is available in South Arcot district and everything will be well then. I hope somebody else will not take away all the wealth before we make up our minds."

SRI S. VADIVELU :—" தரிசு நிலங்களை விவசாயிகளுக்கு பங்கிட்டுக் கொடுத்தால் இந்த வேலையில்லாத் திண்டாட்டத்தை ஓரளவு விவசாயிகள் சம்பந்தப்பட்டவரையிலும் போக்கலா மல்லவா ?"

MR. SPEAKER :— " இந்தக் கேள்வியை ஏற்கெனவே ஒருவர் கேட்டு விட்டார்."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" இன்னொரு தடவை பதில் சொன்னாலும் நல்லது தான். Regarding the question of making people take up lands and work, I am sure the ryots do not require the assistance of the Legislative Assembly. The ryots of our country are ready to take up land which is fit for cultivation and they do so even without asking the Government. There is, therefore, no need for us to worry about it."

SRI M. PALANIYANDI:—" தொழிலாளிகள் அதிகப்படியான கோரிக்கைகளை கேட்கக்கூடாது என்று முதல் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். மக்களின் வாங்கும் சக்தியை அதிகரிப்பதற்காக முதலாளிகளின் லாப வரம்பைக் கட்டுப்படுத்தி, விலையைக் குறைப்பதற்கு அரசாங்கம் முன் வருமா? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" That policy, Sir, would lead to control of everything and regulation of all life in our country, which in my opinion is impossible and is undesirable even if it were possible."

SRI K. R. NALLASIVAM :—" கிராமங்களில் வேலையில்லாத் திண்டாட்டத்தை ஒழிப்பதற்காக விவசாயத்தில் உபயோகிக்கப்படும் இயந்திர சாதனங்களைக் கட்டுப்படுத்தும் உத்தேசம் சர்க்காருக்கு உண்டா ? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, the hon. Member and I belong to a very old-fashioned group. The world won't go with us." (Laughter.)

Virginia tobacco.

* 17 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether Virginia tobacco is cultivated in the State;